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**ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

**Young Men's Colonization Society**

OF PENNSYLVANIA.

READ FEBRUARY 22, 1837.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF MANAGERS

OF

THE YOUNG MEN'S COLONIZATION SOCIETY

OF

PENNSYLVANIA:

READ FEBRUARY 22, 1837.

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PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

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THE annual meeting of the Young Men's Colonization Society of Pennsylvania was held in the Central church, Dr. McDowell, the pastor, being present. The chair was taken by Dr. Cuyler, one of the vice-presidents of the Society. Dr. Skinner, late governor of Liberia, addressed the large assemblage present on the state of the colony, its influence on civilization and Christianity in Africa ; and was followed in the same strain by Mr. Pinney, who had also been governor of Liberia. Rev. Mr. Hunt concluded by giving his own personal experience, and the experience of many southern gentlemen, to show that one of the first and best effects of colonization was emancipation. The Report was read by Dr. Bell.

## REPORT.

THE circumstances connected with colonization in Africa, and with the efforts of the friends of the cause in Pennsylvania and the United States generally, during the past year, furnish abundant reasons for congratulation to the great human family, however diversified by color or other peculiarities.

*There*, we know, live several communities of free men, speaking our own language, believers in our holy religion, enjoying ample scope for the exercise of industry in agriculture, commerce, and the arts; men who but a short time ago were slaves, fearful and suspicious—themselves regarded with dislike and mistrust, for whom and for whose children the future, on this earth, promised no amelioration.

*Here*, we feel and know to be more and more diffused that cause which enlists among its friends and advocates, patriots of all sections of the union and of all parties and creeds; which prompts the slaveholder of the south to emancipate his slaves, and citizens of every calling in the north to provide for the new freed-men a home and a refuge in the land of their fathers,—far from oppressive or partial laws and equally oppressive and partial usages of society.

The hopes held out in the last report of this Board, of a speedy resettlement of Bassa Cove, and of reparation of damages suffered through the arts of the slave dealer, have been fully realized. The colonists, aided by the Governor of Liberia, Dr. Skinner, resumed their possessions in December, 1835; and measures were taken immediately afterwards to ensure them adequate protection against future violence. The seasonable arrival, at the same time, of the supplies sent by this Board, on behalf of the Society, under the superintend-

ence of Mr. Buchanan, who had received from it and from the New-York City Colonization Society the appointment of governor of the new territory, infused joy and confidence into the minds of the colonists ; and was hailed by them as evidence of the continued and watchful interest for their welfare felt by their friends and the friends of their race in this state. From that time to the date of the latest accounts from the coast, they have continued in the enjoyment of uninterrupted prosperity. Health, peace, liberty, incentives to and reward of industry in the cultivation of a fertile soil, are some of the advantages afforded to them by their new position.

A fresh body of emigrants, to the number of 84, sailed from New-York in July last, under the immediate direction and at the expense of the Society of that city. They were emancipated slaves from the west and south, who carried with them the prayers of many clergymen, and members of the Board of Managers, as well as of numbers of both sexes assembled at the moment of their embarkation. They all, with the exception of a very aged woman, 110 years old, who entreated that she might not be separated from her family and kindred, arrived in safety at Bassa Cove, amidst the congratulations and more solid assistance extended to them by the first settlers and the governor. Mr. Buchanan, in his despatch under date of September 26th, expresses himself to be much pleased with the appearance of the newly arrived emigrants, and his belief that they will very generally prove industrious and good citizens.

The principles and practice of temperance, addiction to agriculture and the avoidance of petty traffic, the erection of churches, and the opening of schools, recommended by this Society and embodied in its constitution, have been diligently and successfully carried forward by the zeal and intelligence of Mr. Buchanan. With good accommodations themselves, and an ample supply of the fruits and vegetables, so abundant in that part of the world, the present colonists are now able to make preparation for new comers, and to procure, at once, for the latter a moderate enjoyment of all these advantages.



By this arrangement the two principal causes of disease in new settlements, and especially in those of inter-tropical regions, will be prevented. These are, anxiety respecting present means of living, and exposure to the vicissitudes of weather, for want of suitable lodging. Precautions being taken to insure at once subsistence and dwellings for the newly arrived emigrants,—and to protect them against the destructive effects of intoxicating drinks, the climate of Bassa Cove, and of the country in the interior, may be regarded as not only relatively but actually healthy. Of the accuracy of this opinion indisputable evidence is presented in the pleasing fact, that, from the date of resettlement in Dec'r., 1835, to the latter part of Sept., 1836, when the last despatches were written, there had not been a single death in the colony. Thus is removed one of the most plausible, if not the weightiest objection against settlements on the coast of Africa. It is now evident that the colonist in that country, with common prudence and industry, will encounter fewer obstacles in procuring the means of subsistence at first, and of acquiring property afterwards, than the European emigrant arriving on our shores, or even than the native who emigrates from the Atlantic states to the far west. Monrovia, like many celebrated commercial cities, pays a tax for its maritime exposure and proximity to some low grounds, in the liability of the newly arrived inhabitants to fevers. But in other districts, even near the coast, no such drawback is experienced. Of the new settlement of Marshall, Dr. Skinner remarks: "There cannot be a healthier situation in any tropical climate. I should not, he continues, have the least fear, had I a convenient house at Marshall, to bring out the remainder of my family or to take under my care, at that place, any American for acclimation."

Already has Mr. Buchanan succeeded in giving the same pleasing features to the settlement under his superintendence, which so forcibly arrested his attention in the old colony, and especially at New Georgia, and Congo Town, which are the residences of recaptured Africans, of persons snatched from recent slavery and all the horrors of a slave-ship. We shall give his impressions of the scene in his own words:

"The air of perfect neatness, thrift, and comfort, which reigns throughout, afforded a lovely commentary on the advancement which these interesting people have made in civilization and Christian order, under the patronage of the Colonization Society. Imagine to yourself a level plain of some two or three hundred acres laid off into square blocks, with streets intersecting each other at right angles, as smooth and clean as the best swept side-walk in Philadelphia, and lined with well planted hedges of cassada and plum—houses surrounded with gardens luxuriant with fruit and vegetables—a school-house full of orderly children, neatly dressed and studiously engaged,—and then say whether I was guilty of extravagance in exclaiming, as I did, after surveying this most lovely scene, that, had the Colonization Society accomplished nothing more than had been done in the rescue from slavery and savage habits of these three hundred happy people, I should be well satisfied."

On the same authority we are told, that the village at Bassa Cove, though so recently covered with a dense forest, presents a cheering picture of industry, neatness, and order.

"The well cultivated gardens, full of various vegetation, impart an idea of comfort and independence, while the broad smooth streets, shaded here and there by the graceful palm with its long feathery leaves, throws over the whole an air of picturesque beauty that is quite delightful."

In addition to gardens, the settlers are put in possession of farms, from which the most esteemed products of the soil may be obtained; such as coffee, sugar, and cotton. Rice, by a happy exception to its mode of culture and the consequent dangers to health and life in other countries, can be raised there in abundance on the hill-sides, so as not only to meet the demand for consumption, but ultimately of trade. We learn from Dr. Skinner, that there are now between five and six hundred acres around the village cleared and under cultivation. Adjoining the agency house there are about two acres of land, which Mr. Buchanan has got into rice, and garden vegetables; besides a quantity of coffee, papaw, pine-apple, plantain, and banana trees.

A public farm, in which the productiveness and value of various plants and grains, and the best modes of cultivation, will be tried, is by this time laid out and under the more immediate direction of Mr. Jonas Humphreys, an industrious and intelligent colonist who went out to Africa with Mr. Buchanan. A step of great importance has already been made by the governor in his procuring several head of cattle; and at the date of his despatch, in July last, a pair of oxen were at work daily in the yoke.

The settlement at Bassa Cove, made and sustained with the joint guidance and assistance of this Society and of the New-York City Society, has now nearly two hundred souls, cheerful and happy in themselves, contented with the laws by which they are governed, and grateful for the bounty and paternal care with which they have been sustained through all vicissitudes.

By an arrangement recently made with the parent Board at Washington, the town of Edina, on the northwest side of St. John's river, opposite to our settlement at Bassa Cove, and also a portion of land between this and Benson's river, has been ceded to the two Societies of Pennsylvania and New-York, and will form part of their territory, which, in proportion as peaceful and equitable purchase is made from the native chiefs, will extend along the coast between 50 and 60 miles, and into the interior indefinitely.

A fair and extensive field is now open for the display of benevolence on the part of the citizens of the great commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to enable the Society to continue with effect that which, in conjunction with other kindred associations, it has begun so successfully. Who among us shall refuse to aid in the suppression of the slave-trade?—a result unavoidable if the western coast of central Africa be occupied in whole, as it now is in part, by civilized and Christian colonies. That which the united navies of all the great powers of the world, and the bond of solemn treaties, are unable to bring about, can, by the zealous, determined, peaceful and legal efforts of our own citizens, under the banner of colonization, be fully accomplished. Who shall refuse to contribute

his share to carry the blessings of religion and of law to benighted Africa, and to substitute the altars of Christian worship for those of idolatry, on which human sacrifices are offered ? By no means, humanly speaking, can these results be obtained, unless colonization and the elementary arts of civilized life be associated with missionary effort. Who amongst us, with the least feeling of sympathy for the slave, and an honest and earnest desire to see him in the enjoyment of rational freedom, can refuse to aid in this great work ? Let us but foster the growing desire of masters to emancipate, by our aiding them to find a home and a refuge for their manumitted slaves ; and we shall see slavery rapidly losing its most odious features, to be eventually replaced by liberty animated by religion and guided by intelligence. For every house built in Africa and occupied by a freeman, there will have been a cabin the less in this country to lodge a family of slaves. Churches and schools erected there will be a glad signal for the entire freedom of Christian worship and elementary education among the slaves here, secured to them by masters who desire and design to prepare them for emigration and colonization. This is no fancied picture. Wherever colonization is understood by our fellow citizens in the south and west, it leads to an amelioration of the state of the slaves, and incites their owners to their liberation with a rapidity far in advance of the means in the possession of the Societies for their removal. Many hundreds are now freed and ready to depart to Africa, waiting only for the means of transportation thither. Thousands more would follow were the requisite facilities for removal assured to them. Let, then, the people of the north animate and aid their brethren of the south ; let the rivalry be of good works, and not of hostile speech and infuriated threats ; and the most ardent lover of his species will see his noblest aspirations realized, in the improvement and emancipation of the slave here, and advancement of the latter and of his descendants in Africa to a higher destiny.

The importance of education towards promoting the prosperity, and giving stability to the institutions of the American



colonies in Africa, was early felt by this Society. In its first instructions to the Agent, will be found those relating to this subject; and among the earliest measures adopted in the colony, were the erection of a school-house, and the formation of a Lyceum. The funds of the Society being, however, of necessity applied to the immediate purposes of emigration and first settlement, its reliance must be on the friends of knowledge and of Christianity, to help it out in the vigorous prosecution of these incipient efforts. It is indeed one of the many excellent features of our system, that the Society can be made the almoner and trustee, as it were, to carry out benevolent designs of a specific character; such as the erection of a church or a school-house, endowing Sunday schools, a college, and the like. In this manner, some have taken up the subject of education in Liberia, and have contributed money and books to its aid. The proposition to found and endow a college in the colony, has been warmly seconded by liberal donations in the city of New-York; and it only requires that we should place it fairly before the inhabitants of Pennsylvania to insure an equally decided and efficient support here.

In these and kindred acts, promotive of colonization, the assistance of the other sex has been given with its characteristic discernment and delicately tempered zeal. But who does not know, that, wherever the voice of humanity calls, there is woman to respond; wherever sufferings are greatest, there is she, most forward and earnest, like a ministering angel, to pity and relieve. On the present occasion we cannot, without ingratitude, omit to notice the timely aid furnished by the Ladies' Societies of Pittsburgh, and of Wilmington, the newly formed Baptist Society, together with the Ladies' Liberian Association, both of this city. The pleasure of well-doing must be greatly increased in the minds of our fair auxiliaries by the reflection, that they gracefully restrict themselves to the limits within which their good deeds are most known and most appreciated. They are acting on principles sanctioned by that religion in which charity is so bright and conspicuous a feature, principles which furnish no

matter for anger and strife, and fierce denunciation and hate; principles whose application is not of remote and problematical efficacy, nor susceptible of causing agitation and alarm among our fellow citizens in other parts of the union.

Were the authority of names to be invoked in support of the great cause for which this Society labors, those of the venerated men, who have been recently lost to us, would furnish the most scrupulous with undeniable guaranty. In a question which involves the domestic, civil, and political relations of mankind, and the practicability of any great scheme of national philanthropy, need we desire higher and more conclusive testimony than that borne in our favor by James Madison, the man who more than any other contributed to the formation of the constitution under which the citizens of these United States live? The claims of the Colonization Society were examined by him, at an early period, and secured his warmest approbation and support. Of equal authority, in this matter, to that of Madison is Marshall. If we admire the first for the part he took in framing the constitution, we must venerate the latter for his watchful guardianship over its purity and faithful working. This profound jurist and equitable judge never wavered in his support of colonization. He gave counsel, and gave money, at a period when both were most essential. Mr. Madison has made liberal bequests in the same channel. But the testimony which at once obviates all doubts of this great question, in its moral and religious aspect, has been given by one whose venerable form so familiar to us all, only within the last year disappeared from this earth. When we say that Bishop White was one of our associates in colonization, we need advance no additional fact or argument to confirm the wavering or to convert the unbeliever.

Were the Board to designate those parts of the state in which the work of colonization is active, and carried on with liberality, it might be doing implied injustice to others, by making its knowledge the standard of feeling on the subject. It cannot, however, pass over in silence the results of a temporary mission to Pittsburgh and its vicinity in the spring of last



year, by one of its members, at his own expense. In a period of six weeks the bounty of the citizens of the western emporium and of the towns of Washington, Brownsville and Uniontown, enabled him to place at the disposal of the Society the sum of about seven thousand dollars,\* which came most seasonably to aid us in paying off the debt incurred for the relief expedition to Bassa Cove. In the present season, a visit of the same member to Harrisburgh, led to his addressing the legislature there assembled, as he had done before in the spring, and disposing its members and the citizens, generally, in favor of colonization. In Lancaster city and county, a determination has been recently evinced to engage actively in the good cause, by the formation of a Society, preliminary to liberal pecuniary contributions. Washington county, animated by the zealous and gratuitous labors of Professor Lee, and Dr. Reed, and Dauphin and Montgomery counties are intent on forwarding our measures.

In this city, and the adjoining country, the Agent of the Society has been regularly engaged in enforcing and explaining the merits of the question by addresses from the pulpit on the Sabbath. The various details of correspondence and other business occupy his attention during the week.

In order to record regularly the numerous and interesting facts and occurrences which will constitute the history of colonization, and to extend the influence of brief and pertinent arguments in its support and illustration, the paper, which was commenced nearly two years ago by the Society, is still published. Some exertion by our friends through the state would give it (the Colonization Herald) a circulation commensurate with the importance of the topics, to the elucidation of which its columns are devoted. Its perusal would inspire the timid with confidence and rouse the indifferent to exertion, by showing how great an amount of active and abiding good is done with limited means. The extent, and multifarious relations of colonization with the happiness of this continent, and the redemption from barbarism and idola-

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\* Of this sum, 3300 dollars were in cash ; the remainder in subscription.

try of Africa, new and extensive branches of commerce, increased activity to the arts, cannot be well understood or appreciated unless by the perusal of a colonization journal.

The benevolent efforts of individuals will not be the less valued nor be deemed the less necessary, because they will have prepared the way for more extensive operations in the same course by the different states, perhaps by the government of the United States. Scarcely less glory will be theirs who first began this noble enterprise and who kept public attention alive to its importance, than will be given to them who shall carry it on to its completion. He who contributes to the cause of colonization at this time, does great and immediate good in relieving a fellow man from thralldom and placing him in security in Africa; but he ought also to reflect that his present benevolence accelerates the eventual and entire emancipation of millions from slavery. Each citizen in this work, by a little well-timed liberality, will strengthen the hand of his neighbor, as they will be invigorated to the enterprise by a third. In this way, by progressive addition and persevering effort, all that is now barely hoped for can with certainty be accomplished. Whoever refuses to act now, retards the consummation in a ratio which hereafter would startle and alarm a heart of any sensibility.

Already, in reference to the future destinies of the colonies on the western coast of Africa, and as a means of facilitating their progress in civil government, a plan for a federal union among them was prepared at the last annual meeting of the American Colonization Society, held in Washington. This will give a still wider range for the exercise of mind and an incitement to honorable ambition to the whole African race, on both sides of the Atlantic. The world will, henceforth, be able to judge of the conduct and character of those who prefer to spend their days supinely and in want, enslaved by law in one section of the United States and by still more powerful custom in another section, to their occupying a station and acquiring a name for themselves, and at the least a legal and constitutional protection for both themselves and their descendants in the land of their forefathers.

The Board, in conclusion, would state that arrangements have been made to effect a union between the Young Men's Colonization Society and the Pennsylvania Colonization Society, on such a footing that the principles and system of colonization of the former, which have met with such general approval, shall be maintained and continued under the title and charter of the latter.

## SPEECH OF REV. DR. SKINNER.

Dr. SKINNER, ex-governor of Liberia, introduced the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the good which has already resulted from the establishment of colonies on the western coast of Africa, calls upon every individual engaged in this most benevolent enterprise, for the utmost gratitude to God ; whilst the magnitude of the enterprise, and the virtue and extent of good it is calculated to effect, makes it the duty of every patriot, of every philanthropist, and of every Christian in the union, to give it the aid of their influence, their prayers, and their contributions.

In support of the resolution the Doctor remarked that there was much reason for gratitude to God for the great success which had already attended the efforts of the colonizationists. Since these labors were commenced four thousand colored people have been colonized in Africa. Two thousand of the number were redeemed from actual slavery. If they had been permitted to remain in the United States, they would have been slaves as long as they lived, and their posterity must have been slaves also. In the colony they possess every principle of civil liberty which the free citizen enjoys in the United States. They may all possess landed property ; there not being more than ten heads of families of those sent out who do not. Their condition, too, is infinitely superior to the free blacks of the United States. They are free-men, enjoying the blessings of their own enterprise and industry ; and they are uniformly moral, happy, and contented. Of the 2,301 sent out by the association of the Parent Colonization Society, 700 are professors of religion ; and, among the others, he never recollected more than one case of the use of profane language during his residence of 22 months in the colony.

The colony at Liberia, in another point of view, must be looked at with great interest. It exerts a most happy influence upon the natives. Up to the period of the planting of the colonies, the practice was universal among the natives of offering human sacrifices : but, through the influence of example, and by the exertions that have been made, this awful custom has been entirely abolished in their vicinity. The character of the natives, too, in a religious, moral, and political point of view, is operated upon with a benign influence. They behold the spread of civilization among the colonists, and the incalculable benefits and blessings that ensue ; and, true to a law of nature, they express strong solicitude to learn the arts and partake of the innumerable advantages of civilized society. Here do the patriot, philanthropist, and Christian, by aiding the efforts of the colonists, wield a mighty lever to bring Africa into the great lights of literature and sound philosophy. Thus, ultimately, shall Ethiopia stretch out her hands in gratitude to God for the universal spread of the blessed and eternal truths of the Christian religion, and the refinements of civilization.

There is another consideration that makes it the duty of all, who believe the day will come when the light of Christianity and civilization shall reign throughout the earth, to aid the cause of colonization. It is the protection which the colonists give to the missionary who goes forth as the herald of the cross. Before the planting of the colonies the missionary went out at the imminent hazard of his life. The slave traders looked upon him as inimical to their nefarious traffic, and they incited the natives against him by every means in

their power. He taught the pure principles of Christianity, and sought to enlighten the minds of those who were bowing beneath the yoke of idolatry in these darkened regions, and the slave dealer could not look upon his labors as favorable to his designs. He feared the lights of truth and knowledge, and hence he persecuted the missionary. Some of the natives, too, who wished to favor the slave trader, looked upon him with great distrust. Some of the weaker tribes had even been the sport of the cupidity of the stronger. The strong would seize upon the weak, drag them from their homes, sunder all the ties of consanguinity—husbands from wives, parents from children—to go into a distant land in perpetual slavery. The lesser tribes now throw themselves beneath the influence of the colony; and thus has a check been put over this dreadful traffic which nothing else could have accomplished. Now the missionary of the gospel has a secure foothold in Western Africa, and is peacefully diffusing the benign influence of Christianity among the natives in these darkened regions.

There is no other way in which Africa can be reclaimed from the thralldom under which she lies than by the effects of colonization. Let the missionary labor be extended—let schools be established as fast as called for, to educate native children; and in fifty years the light of knowledge and science will shine in glory throughout this land of midnight darkness. There is a great anxiety among the natives for light. They are extremely desirous to be taught. They beg the missionary to teach them. They wish to learn our language and become acquainted with our manners and customs—to gain some knowledge of our free institutions. And what Christian or philanthropist will refuse to aid in so glorious a work, even if there were no other consideration to incite him onward?

Before the great light which is thus diffusing, the horrors of the slave trade shall finally vanish from the land. Nothing has been so effectual as these colonies. The slave dealers fear them. They stand up a mighty bulwark to protect the defenceless, and to stay the horrors of this awful trade. Many depots have been broken up by the colonists on the western coast of Africa. Hundreds of the natives would leave their homes and walk abroad, not anticipating molestation, when they were often gagged and bound hand and foot, and hurried on ship-board, to go away from friends and all the endearing scenes of childhood, into the bonds of slavery, in a distant land, or to die of some fatal pestilence in crossing the trackless deep. Whole villages were rushed upon by the stronger party, and men, women, and children were seized—their dwellings burnt to ashes before their eyes—their old and infirm were killed, and infants had their brains dashed out in presence of their agonized mothers. But, thanks to God, who has so prospered the good labors of colonization, these accumulated horrors have received a check that demands the deep-felt gratitude of every friend of humanity. Twenty colonies, he firmly believed, would do more towards the ultimate extermination of this awful trade than could three times the amount of numbers and resources employed in armed vessels stationed upon the coast, because they would exert an influence in educating and subduing the natives which nothing else could secure.

In the commencement of colonization there are always innumerable difficulties to encounter. In the locating of the colony at Monrovia we were unfortunate, as ill-health, to some extent, attended those sent out and disease carried others off. But there is one fact which should be mentioned. Among all the numbers which have been sent out by the parent society, (2301) since the colonizationists commenced their work, sixteen years ago, only 733 have died. Compare this with the bills of mortality in any portion of our country, and it will be found to be much below them. The general average of death



is one half the population in sixteen years, while the deaths among the colonists show only about 33 per cent. of the number of colonists. At Bassa Cove the colonists are very healthy. The climate is fine, and they have every thing that could be desired. There is a noble field for their enterprise and industry, and in the possession of the blessings of civil, religious, and political rights, they must become much more independent, happy, and contented, than they could ever be in the United States, even if made free. All that is now wanted is *more means*. There is a great and noble work before us. Let the Christian, the philanthropist, and the patriot, bring their offerings to the altar—to spread the light of religion, literature, and science—and the glorious work will be finally consummated,—when Ethiopia shall lift up her hands in glory among the redeemed nations of the earth, smiling beneath the blessings of human liberty, and the refinements of civilization.

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### SPEECH OF REV. J. B. PINNEY.

We can by no means do justice to the excellent speech of Mr. Pinney, but avail ourselves of the following, which was taken down at the time by a friend.

Rev. Mr. PINNEY, who was likewise an ex-governor of Liberia, had been for several years a missionary on the western coast of Africa. He compared the unfavorable and contradictory reports which had been spread throughout this country in relation to the colonies of Liberia, with those which were brought by the spies sent out by the twelve tribes of Israel. This he looked upon as an apt parallel. There was found to be about as much truth, on unprejudiced investigation, in the one case as in the other. He had enjoyed every means of knowing not only the true condition of the colonies, but that of Africa also. The first ray of political liberty which shone upon this darkened land was diffused by the commencement of a colony in 1816. Ere this, universal darkness had brooded over the land. The government was an absolute despotism. Every individual was born either a slave or a king, and the ruling power put to death any subject at his will. There was no security to individual rights, and no protection to industry or enterprise. The planting of the first colony, like the immortal band of pilgrims who landed on Plymouth Rock, became the pioneer of civil liberty in that darkened region. They floated aloft the banner of freedom—diffused the sound principles of civil, religious, and political rights, and enkindled the light of liberty, which, he prayed God, might never be obscured till the whole of Africa should be redeemed from the bonds of ignorance and barbarism.

The colonies that have been planted in Africa should be compared to the light which America is diffusing upon other nations of the earth. It has been well said that we are trying the great experiment of self-government; aye, an experiment which the world had never before seen tried. For more than half a century we have withstood all commotion, at home and abroad, that threatened to endanger the compact which came from the wisdom and patriotism of “the fathers of the revolution;” and the influence of this example upon nations groaning under the yoke of despotism, has shaken the thrones of tyranny, and broken the shackles of the oppressed. Look at the spirit of liberty which has been diffused throughout Europe. The spark of liberty has been enkindled. The sounds of the French revolution have but just died upon the ear. All the nations and principalities are aroused, and the example of freedom on their shores will be the shining meteor to illumine



them into the fold of liberty and independence. So shall Africa be redeemed. Plant colonies all along the coast, rear school-houses, erect churches, and the children of the natives might be educated in the great truths of christianity, and the pure principles of individual and political liberty; and, in less than half a century would the whole of Africa be redeemed from the thralldom of barbarism. The people are open to instruction. He had travelled in their villages, mingled with all classes, and he found the greatest difficulty to get away from them; they were so solicitous that he should become their teacher. The kings bore a favorable ear. They wish their sons to learn, and this example is universal. In every village you enter, such had already been the attention of those who had found a chance to learn, that you could find interpreters. "I be America man—I talk America—I talk your language"—is heard from many lips. And this is looked upon as a matter of great pleasure, and all are very anxious to obtain a knowledge of "America and America people."

It is astonishing to witness the influence of the colonies upon the natives. The natives look upon the colonists as a superior race of beings, because they possess a knowledge of social and political rights, and enjoy the blessings of a political community, reaping the reward of their own industry and enterprise. They seek to gain from them all the knowledge they can—placing themselves under the influence of their example, when circumstances will permit it. There is, perhaps, as much difference between the colonists and natives, in point of comparative intelligence, as there is between the whites and blacks of this country; and they feel about as much repugnance to intermarry with them, before they are brought under the influence of the privileges of the colonies, as would the whites to intermarry with the blacks of our own land. Such is the darkness, barbarity, and ignorance upon which the Christian and philanthropist are called to operate; and no field presents a more certain return of expansive benevolence. Nothing but the salt of civil liberty can save Africa, and it must be sent through the great efforts of colonization.

As an illustration of what may be done among the natives, he mentioned the 300 slaves who were sent back by the Supreme Court of the United States, taken from a slave vessel, 12 years ago. They were then savages in utter barbarism; but they were placed beneath the benefits of the colony, and, step by step, they were improved, until now they are the owners of their own lots, live in a village by themselves, and enjoy the blessings of freedom, and partake of all the benefits of social and moral privileges.

Before he went to Africa he had heard such terrific accounts of its swamps, and pestilential atmosphere, that he was not a little alarmed upon his passage. He had read Johnson upon tropical fever, who gave a most awful account of its ravages in the swamps and marshes; but when he planted his feet upon the shores, and became acquainted with the face of the country, he was prepared to say that, so imperfect is that author's account, that he never could have been in Africa, nor had he seen an intelligent individual who had. Upon the sea coast there is some low land, but from Cape Mount to Cape Palmas the country is as hilly and undulating as that of New-England. There are very few swamps indeed. There are three streams about as large as the Delaware that make through the hills of the interior to the sea coast. As you recede from these and go to the hills, there is no miasma. The only unhealthy part is directly on the coast, and it seems to be particularly unfortunate that the original colony (Monrovia) should have been planted at this very part.

It had been well remarked that the colonies were of incalculable importance both in protecting the missionary, and in crowding out the slave-trader. The slave-trader had indeed been lord of the dominion; he swayed a potent power upon the great theatre of crime and horror. He had reigned in undis-

puted supremacy for upwards of two hundred years, making a marketable commodity of his fellow-creatures under all the horrors of unrestrained cupidity and merciless violence. If a feeble voice was now and then heard to utter its faint accents against this awful traffic it was immediately suppressed, even if the individual did not at once fall a sacrifice to its merciless resentment. It is said that when Lander went through the trackless desert, after burying Clapperton, a Portuguese slave-trader administered poison in his drink, out of fear that he would excite the natives against the slave-trade. But, by a fortunate chance, the traveller discovered the attempt upon his life in time to swallow a strong antidote to counteract the effect of the poison. A slave establishment upon the coast was broken up by the influence of a vessel of the colonies. Three months afterwards, it went to sea, and for four years neither vessel nor crew has been heard of!

There is (said Mr. P.) blood upon our country. We are apt to throw all the blame of slavery upon the south. But our whole country owes the debt of slavery. Let all, then, unite in the great work of redemption. If proper efforts are made 50,000 blacks may be colonized in Africa in five years, and at the ratio of those who have fallen under the blessed influence of Christianity in the colonies, 10,000 at least would be Christians, and 100 preachers. What a mighty instrument this would be towards subduing Africa to the light of civilization.

The natives are docile. They live in their mud huts, and hail the approach of the missionary with indescribable joy. They receive his teachings and beg for his presence. Upwards of 1400 natives, perfect savages ten years ago, have been brought under the subduing and benign influence of the colonies. They have a delightful climate, occupy a soil of wonderful exuberance, and enjoy the reward of their industry and enterprise; smiling beneath the exalted privileges of freemen and shedding a right influence over the natives around them. It is thus that in less than half a century may the whole of Africa, with her fifty millions of people, be subdued. And bowing beneath the holy influence of Christianity, literature, science and the arts, will she raise one universal peal for redemption from the bonds of ignorance, superstition and idolatry!

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## EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORT

OF THE MANAGERS TO THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY, AT ITS  
TWENTIETH ANNUAL MEETING.

In submitting to the Society a concise statement of their proceedings during the year, the managers commence with an account of expeditions.

### EXPEDITIONS.

The Brig Luna, Capt. Bears, having on board eighty emigrants and two recaptured African children, under the care of the United States government, with liberal supplies of provisions, agricultural implements and trade goods, sailed from Norfolk, Virginia, on the third of March, and completed her voyage on the 7th of April. Of these emigrants forty-four were manumitted on the condition of colonization, by the will of the late General Blackburn of Staunton, Virginia, seven by the late Rev. John Allemon; and five by the late Mrs. Washington of Frederick county, Va.; while four were emancipated by the Rev. C. W. Andrews of Frederick county; six by the late Jeddediah Atkinson of Petersburg; seven by Thomas S. King, Esq., of Portsmouth; one by Mr. Davidson of Charlotte county; one by Mr. S. O. Moon of Albemarle county, Virginia; and two by M. A. McNeill of Mecklenburg, North Carolina. Several others were free persons

of color from Norfolk. A number that was expected (as stated in the last report) failed to embark in this expedition. Most of this company were young men, several of them preachers of the gospel, and one a minister and missionary of the Methodist Church, the Rev. Beverly R. Wilson, well-known to many of our countrymen as having, after a visit and examination of the colony during fourteen months, returned to the United States for the purpose of concluding a final settlement of his affairs in Virginia and removing with his entire family to Liberia. His statements concerning the colony, made in sundry places and before large audiences in the northern and middle states, convinced many that the scheme of African Colonization merited their decided and earnest support. The effects of these impressive statements were manifest at the time, and, we doubt not, will be permanent.

The Schooner *Swift* left New-Orleans on the 28th of April with forty-three emigrants, recently emancipated, mostly from the State of Mississippi, and arrived (after a long passage of 46 days) at Monrovia on the 7th of July. Among these were about twenty slaves, liberated for colonization by Edward B. Randolph, of Lowndes county, Mississippi. The expenses of this expedition were paid by the Mississippi Colonization Society, assisted by an advance of \$2500 by the liberal executor (James Railey, Esq.) of the estate of the late James Green, by whose will provision was made for the manumission of a part of his slaves (26 in number, whose removal to the colony was mentioned in the last report) and the application of a generous portion of his large estate to aid the object of the Society. A majority of these emigrants were young, accustomed to labor in the plantations in the South, and well furnished with the utensils and stores necessary to a comfortable settlement, and the successful cultivation of the soil in the colony. They are represented as intelligent, moral and industrious, several of them adorning by their lives their professions of Christian faith, and all as inclined before their departure from our shores to organize themselves into a temperance society on the principle of total abstinence from ardent spirits.

The emigrants by the *Luna* were landed at Monrovia, but subsequently removed to a new settlement on the Junk river called Marshall, after the late Chief Justice of the United States. The managers regret to add that, soon after their arrival, the fever of the country prevailed among these emigrants and that several of them fell victims to the disease.

The company by the *Swift* proceeded forthwith to Millsburg, about twenty miles from the coast, on the river St. Paul's, a settlement enjoying great advantages for health and agricultural pursuits.

A select company of emigrants is now preparing to sail in the Brig *Rondout*, chartered by the Society from Wilmington, North Carolina. These people are from North Carolina, and among those from the latter State is Lewis Sheridan, a free man of color of respectability, education and property, who goes, accompanied by his family and a number of his relatives, with the means and the view of devoting his time and exertions to the development and improvement of the agricultural resources of Liberia.

There will, also, go in this vessel, eighteen colored persons, consisting of men, women, and children, late the property of Dr. Shuman, of Stokes county, North Carolina, who not only generously manumitted them that they might go to Africa, but also gave them one thousand dollars in money, to be employed in their comfortable establishment in the colony of Liberia.

The Brig *Luna*, Capt. Hallet, with eighty-four emigrants, fifty of whom were slaves recently liberated (on condition of their removing to the colony) in Kentucky and Tennessee, sailed from New-York on the 5th of July, and arrived at Monrovia on the 19th of August. This expedition was fitted out under the direction of the Auxiliary Colonization Society of New-York city ;

and the emigrants proceeded forthwith to the settlement founded by the joint endeavors of that Society and the Young Men's Auxiliary Society of Pennsylvania, at Bassa Cove. Of those who liberated slaves that they might embark in this vessel Mr. G. W. M'Elroy, the zealous and successful Agent of the New-York Society, who was employed for several weeks in collecting these slaves, and other emigrants together, and conducting them to the port of embarkation, records the following names, with the number manumitted by each. From Kentucky—Mr. Marks, one; George Hailen, Esq., eleven; Thomas Hopkins, Esq., six; Benjamin Major, Esq., eleven; Colonel Andrew Muldrow, ten. From Tennessee—Mr. Andrew Donelson, eleven; Mr. Peter Fisher, six. It is to be regretted that the influence of the enemies of the Society at Pittsburgh was sufficiently powerful to induce fourteen of these slaves, liberated by Messrs. Donelson and Fisher, to leave the company on their way to New-York, although eight hundred dollars had been placed at the disposal of the Agent for the benefit of those of Mr. Donelson after their arrival in the colony, and four hundred for those of Mr. Fisher. Of this company nearly all were members of a temperance society, most of them were by profession Christians, and several preachers of the gospel. When about to embark, in reply to an address by the Secretary of the New-York Society, and the encouraging remarks of other friends of the cause, the Rev. Mr. Hening, a colored Methodist missionary, who accompanied the expedition, responded in behalf of the colonists in a very pertinent and impressive manner. "He declared himself indebted to the Colonization Society for his personal freedom, having been manumitted for the purpose of going to Liberia by his humane master in Virginia. He had been to the colony, and after making his observations and laboring for a time as a preacher of the gospel, both among the colonists and the natives, had returned to the United States to improve his education and qualify himself for more extensive usefulness. Having for two years past pursued his studies at the Wesleyan Academy in Wilbraham, Mass., and other parts of New-England, he was about to return and spend his life in the colony, proclaiming the unsearchable riches of Christ on the shores of Africa. He expressed his heartfelt gratitude for the kindness and sympathy he had experienced, and especially for the interest then manifested in the welfare of those with whom he was about to take his departure, and in conclusion offered a fervent address to the throne of grace, which (remarks one who was present) melted all hearts and gave evidence of his high qualifications for usefulness in the field to which he is devoted.

Mr. James B. Herron, a citizen of Nicholasville, Kentucky, much interested in the welfare of the people of color and the success of their colonies in Africa, took passage in the *Luna*, resolved even without compensation to visit and examine for himself the condition and prospects of those settlements.

#### CONDITION AND AGRICULTURE OF THE COLONY.

Although the number of applicants to the Society for the means of removal to Liberia continues to be great, the managers have sought rather to improve the condition than increase the numbers of the colony. They regret that causes, unexpected and beyond their control, have delayed the execution of some important measures and cherished purposes. Several vessels, which were directed to touch at the Cape de Verds and convey thence to the colony a number of mules and other animals, have failed to effect the object. The captain of the brig, about to sail from North Carolina, is instructed to neglect no means of introducing these animals into the colony. The ill health of the Colonial Agent and his multiplied cares and labors have not permitted him to devote the time and thought to agricultural improvements which were demanded by the obvious



connexion of such improvements with the health, industry, and general prosperity of the colonists. The public farm and workshops, which are intended to give employment and support to the infirm and destitute, have not been opened, nor a superintendent of agriculture appointed. The managers are assured, however, from the best sources, that on the subject of agriculture a new spirit animates the settlers; that it prevails throughout the colony; that this interest is regarded as one in which the well-being of the people is involved; that those who have funds refuse to engage in trade, and are resolved to apply all their means to advance this interest; and, finally, that should the colonists exhibit the same zeal and energy in the cultivation of the soil during the future as during the last year, a short time only will elapse before the rich products of tropical agriculture will be exported from the colony. "We have often declared," says the intelligent editor of the *Liberia Herald*, and we repeat the assertion, "that no reasonable man can desire greater facilities for an honorable living than are to be found in this country. The principal articles that are in foreign demand, if not indigenous to the country, are found springing up spontaneously through our mountains, hills, and valleys. Millions of coffee trees of sufficient sizes and age may be gathered from the woods between this and Junk; we know from experiment that they will bear in three years from the time of transplantation; so that a man who will commence with spirit and set out 15 or 20 thousand plants, may calculate, with a good degree of certainty, on a large quantity of coffee in three years from the time he commences operation." "It is," he very justly adds, "absolutely a disgrace to us to have to inquire of foreigners when they arrive, 'Have you any coffee?' or 'can you spare me a little sugar?' It must give them a most unfavorable opinion of our good sense and industry, when they hear that the trees and plants that produce these articles are scattered with a liberal profusion through our woods, almost within our very doors."

#### TESTIMONY CONCERNING THE COLONY.

Of the general aspect and state of things in the colony, the managers have nothing of very special interest to communicate since the last year. Thomas H. Buchanan, Esq., commissioned by the New-York and Philadelphia Societies to superintend their settlement and concerns at Bassa Cove, on his arrival in the colony at the commencement of the year, writes:

"I find a state of things here altogether better than I had ever anticipated, even when trying to imagine the brightest side of the picture; but, with my present imperfect ability to detect the errors of first impressions, shall withhold the remarks which my feelings would prompt. I visited New-Georgia, Cape Town and Caldwell on Tuesday last. With all these towns I was much pleased, but this term is too feeble entirely to convey the delightful emotions excited by the appearance of things in the two first named villages, which are the residences of the recaptured Africans. Imagine to yourself a level plain of some two or three hundred acres, laid off into square blocks, with streets intersecting each other at right angles, as smooth and clear as the best swept side-walk in Philadelphia, and lined with well planted hedges of cassada and plum; houses surrounded with gardens, luxuriant with fruit and vegetables; a schoolhouse full of orderly children, neatly dressed and studiously engaged; and then say whether I was guilty of extravagance in exclaiming, as I did, after surveying this most lovely scene, that, had the Colonization Society accomplished nothing more than had been done in the rescue from slavery and savage habits of these three hundred happy people, I should be well satisfied." Again he remarks, "Liberia far exceeds, in almost every respect, all that I had ever imagined of her—nothing is wanted, I am persuaded, but a better system of agriculture, and the permanent establishment of schools, to bring the peo-

ple of Liberia at a very early day to the very highest point of the scale of intellectual refinement and political consequence."

The Rev. Beverly R. Wilson, (whose name has been already mentioned) under date of April 26th, writes: "When I was in the United States, I said many things in favor of the colony; but I find that I said not half enough. Here is our home, the colony is in good health. Farming is going on well, and all is quiet at this time. Many of the farmers from Mississippi are doing well and think they will be able to ship produce from here to the United States in less than three years; they are much engaged in their present crops. There is no doubt but we shall do well here. For my own part, I have never been so perfectly contented with my own situation in all my life. I am now at home."

David Moore, a very intelligent emigrant from Mississippi, under date of the 25th of April, writes to the Rev. Mr. Butler of Port Gibson: "I am glad to inform you that myself and family are well, and generally have enjoyed as good if not better health than in the United States; indeed our expedition has suffered very little with the fever of the climate, and the proportion of deaths has been less than if we were in America. I assure you, Rev. Sir, that I do truly thank God and my kind friends who directed my feet to this land of liberty with its concomitant blessings. We have, although, a few privations to undergo, many of nature's blessings, and I expect in a few years to be able to say that we do then live in a land of unrivalled plenty and luxury."

James Brown, a worthy freeman of color from this city, who has resided about two years in the colony, under date of July 27th, writes: "I say now, as I have in former letters, and with more experience too, that nothing is required but proper management to make this one of the most desirable and happy places in the world. When I view the natural advantages of Liberia, I am ready to say, surely the benevolent God of nature intended it a happy asylum for the returning sons of Africa, and therefore the natural advantages of this country are more than would compensate them for their trouble in former days."

#### LAND PURCHASED.

Two valuable tracts of land have been added to the territory of the colony during the year. The first, a small tract, in the neighborhood of Edina, and on the margin of the bay that forms the outlet of St. John's river, was purchased of a native chief named Bob Gray, a faithful ally of the colony, who desires that the children of his tribe may learn the language and customs of the settlers. Between Edina and Bob Gray's town is a beautiful hill, on which, with permission of the Society, the Baptist missionaries propose to found a mission school, on the manual labor plan, that may afford instruction both to the children of the native town and Edina. The second tract is near the mouth of Junk river, and embraces the very eligible spot upon which stands the village or town of Marshall. This tract had been bought by the former agent, Mr. Pinney; but the validity of the title granted to the Society was not acknowledged by the Junk people; and it was thought best to conclude negotiations which will prevent all difference and contentions in future between the colonists and the native inhabitants.

#### MARSHALL.

Marshall stands upon an open, cleared, and rising plot of ground, between the two rivers Junk and Red Junk, distant at least three miles from any Mangrove swamps, or other sources of disease, and fanned by the uncontaminated breezes of the ocean that rolls its waves upon its beach. A few houses were erected here two years ago by Mr. Pinney. A town of more than a mile



square was laid off in 392 lots during the last spring, and a number of the colonists and recaptured Africans removed thither, and commenced the construction of houses and the cultivation of the soil. "There cannot be," says Dr. Skinner, "a healthy situation in any tropical climate if this is not one. I should not have the least fear, had I a convenient house at Marshall, to bring out the remainder of my family, or to take under my care at that place any American for acclimation."

#### CAPE PALMAS.

The colony of Cape Palmas, founded by the State Colonization Society of Maryland, aided by the generous appropriation of the legislature of that State, continues to prosper. From the origin of its enterprise in 1833, this Society has sent to Africa seven expeditions, containing in all about three hundred emigrants. The village of Harper contains about twenty-five private houses and several public buildings; a public farm of ten acres has been in part cleared; about thirty acres have been put in cultivation by the colonists; their influence on the natives is salutary; schools have been established and prosper, and the people are pronounced by the late intelligent governor, Dr. Hall, moral, industrious, religious and happy. This gentleman has resigned his office, and J. B. Russwurm, late a citizen of Monrovia, has been appointed to the station.

#### MISSION INTO THE INTERIOR.

Allusion was made in the last report to the appointment of certain commissioners, by the colonial government, to proceed into the interior as far as Bo Poro, the residence of King Boatswain, for the purpose of negotiating a peace between certain hostile tribes, and opening a friendly and mutually advantageous intercourse with the people of that region. D. W. Whitehurst, one of these commissioners, visited the United States a few months ago, and made report to the managers of his observations during his absence of four months from the colony. The commissioners resided at Bo Poro, (distant from 80 to 100 miles from Monrovia) several weeks, and though they failed, owing to the very disturbed state of the country, to effect the main object, they acquired information of great value, which, in the journal of Mr. Whitehurst, is already before the public. They passed through a fertile and beautiful country, upon which were scattered numerous fortified native towns, inhabited by a savage but active and industrious people, and abounding in the productions of tropical agriculture. Of a town within eight miles of Bo Poro, Mr. Whitehurst writes, "Every thing conspires to render this spot desirable for human happiness, if the propensity for war which the people have could be gotten over; but as it is, every thing is secondary to the grand object of conquest or capture. Groups of cheerful beings were passed through, either planting or grubbing, while at the towns the women were generally employed in spinning cotton. Cotton grows abundant throughout the country, and every town is furnished, more or less, with the apparatus for dyeing and weaving. The sugar cane too we observed frequently, while the plantain and bananna were in the greatest profusion. The first notice, at times, that we would have of our proximity to a town, would be the dense and beautiful foliage of those trees, giving us notice of human habitations. We approached Talma through beautiful walks of lofty and magnificent trees, very thickly interspersed with those of camwood, whose fragrant blossoms imparted delightful aroma to the atmosphere. He remarks, "The situation of Bo Poro is very obscure, being located in a valley formed by a chain of double mountains, completely encircling it and giving to their elevation a remarkable similitude to the seats of a theatre. The scenery by which the town is surrounded, is magnificently grand; as far as the eye can see, you discern mountain towering above mountain until they are lost in the

distance. The chain runs regularly for some miles, then a portion more lofty than the rest towers aloft, whilst from base to summit the eye can behold but one expanse of the greenest foliage. The land then assumes a gentle acclivity, and its increasing altitude soon raises it upon an elevation with other prominences, until the whole assumes the appearance of one continuous chain. Here, perhaps, the eye is met by a portion under cultivation, whilst there a path is distinctly visible leading to regions beyond. At their base is to be seen the plantain, the sure evidence of the habitation of human beings, whilst from their shade will be seen ascending smoke from their various fires. On their summit the eye catches the outline of a distant town, whilst a barricaded one is more distinctly visible. Upon the whole, the scenery is more magnificent than any that I remember having seen, and it is to me a matter of great regret that I am unable to sketch what was most vividly impressed upon my mind."

But amid these scenes, so adorned and enriched by the hand of nature, and where the useful arts are not wholly unknown, men are the victims of the worst superstition and vice. By the slave-trade they have been rendered more implacable foes to each other than are the leopards of their forests, and even cannibalism: a crime not against reason and the moral sense alone, but revolting even to instinct, exists among them.

#### WARS AND THE SLAVE-TRADE.

Native wars (as we have already mentioned) have raged during the year among numerous tribes, and along a great extent of the African coast. They have their origin mostly in the slave-trade, which, to the reproach of Christendom, no means yet employed have been adequate to suppress. The governments of England and France, in the year 1831, conceded to each other the mutual right of search within certain geographical limits, for the suppression of the slave-trade, and resolved mutually to aid each other, and to use their best endeavors to induce the other powers of Europe to agree to the terms of their convention. Endeavors have been made to secure from Brazil, the Netherlands, Sweden, Portugal, and Spain, between whom and Great Britain treaties for the suppression of the slave-trade had before existed, an agreement in all the articles of this convention; and "to all the other powers of Europe, (says the Edinburgh Review,) and to the United States, France and England, conjointly have made the strongest representations on the subject, and urged them, by every consideration of justice, humanity and policy, to make a combined and simultaneous effort for at once annihilating what they themselves twenty years before denounced as the curse of Africa, and the disgrace of Europe." Denmark and Sardinia have agreed to the convention. Austria, the Netherlands and Sweden have not declared their judgments on the subject. Prussia, Russia and Naples seem undecided. Brazil states that when the Portuguese trade shall cease, slaves will no longer be brought to her shores. Portugal evades the question.\* Spain enters into a treaty which extends the right of search even beyond the limits prescribed by the convention with France, provides for the punishment of those engaged in the traffic, for the condemnation of the vessels, and for delivery of the recaptured Africans to British authorities. This treaty leaves the suppression of the trade mostly to the activity of England; and the number of Spanish vessels captured, under the new treaty, and sent into Sierra Leone for adjudication, has greatly increased. It is said that our own country has returned to the proposition of France and England a negative answer. We know not the reasons

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\* A treaty between Great Britain and Portugal has just been concluded for the suppression of the slave-trade.

upon which this answer is founded, but if, as we suppose, they relate to the right of search, although by the convention it exists but within narrow limits for one definite object, and is guarded by express stipulations, we trust that a nation the first to adopt measures for the suppression of that trade, the first to denounce it by statute as piracy, will not fail to do what may be necessary to prevent her own flag of freedom from covering this detestable commerce; that she will at least exert all her influence with Christian nations, that by common consent the slave-trade may be known and punished as piracy by the laws of the whole civilized world.

The colonies planted by England, and by citizens of the United States, on the western coast of Africa, have done much to expel this traffic from their neighborhood. "It is a fact," says the editor of the *Liberia Herald*, "known to all who have made any inquiries on the subject, that there is not a regular slaving establishment to the windward of Sierra Leone, nearer than the Rio Pongas; nor is there in the Rio Pongas, as far as we can learn, an established market for the avowed purpose. Vessels casually purchase slaves there, but there is no regular market for the purpose. Nor is there to the leeward of Sierra Leone, nearer than the Gallenas a regular slaving establishment. Here, there is an extent of coast of 120 miles cleared of the scourge by the influence of one settlement alone. Gallenas is the only slaving establishment between this and Sierra Leone; and, to the leeward of us, there is none nearer than Bassa." According to this, from an extent of coast of 360 miles, this trade has been nearly extirpated by the influence of colonies, and this a region which it is said was visited formerly, by a greater number of vessels engaged in that trade, than now touch there for the purpose of legitimate commerce.

#### MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

David Francis Bacon, M. D., a young gentleman of high scientific attainments and estimable character, has very recently been appointed principal colonial physician, and is about to embark for Liberia. He is accompanied by Dr. Wm. H. Taylor, educated to the medical profession at the expense of this board, and in whose good sense and general capacity and integrity, they have entire confidence.

#### EDUCATION SOCIETY.

In the course of last summer a Society of young men was organized in the city of New-York, to promote education in Africa, and especially to found, on some eligible spot in Liberia, and adequately to endow an institution of learning of high character. This Society has already received pledges of support to the amount of about thirty thousand dollars, and does not doubt that the means of establishing such an institution on broad and permanent foundations, will speedily be secured. The design of this Society is not limited to the establishment of a single seminary, but embraces the whole subject of education for Africa, and proposes to intrust the funds it may collect, and the duties of general superintendence over its schools and colleges in Africa, to a board of trustees, constituted of individuals, selected, for their high character and wisdom, from different portions of the union.

#### SECRETARY'S VISIT TO THE SOUTHWEST.

With the view of disposing of the remaining interest in the estate of the late Mr. Ireland of New Orleans; of ascertaining the condition of several legacies recently left to the Society in the states of Mississippi and Louisiana; of conferring with the officers of auxiliary Societies, especially of state Societies, on various questions of interest to the cause; and of securing from such associations, and from the liberality of individuals, pecuniary aid; and, finally,

of communicating such information to the citizens of the several places he should visit, in regard to the state and prospects of the colony of Liberia, as might confirm the confidence and increase the number of the friends of colonization; the Secretary of the Society, under the instructions of the board, was engaged in a tour, from April to October, in the southwestern states. The state Societies of Kentucky, Mississippi, and Louisiana, expressed their decided and ardent attachment to the parent institution, and their purpose vigorously and generously to sustain its operations. The managers of the Kentucky Society suggested that efforts should be made, in concert by the several state Societies, to relieve the parent Society from embarrassment, and in this opinion the committee of the Mississippi Society fully concurred. Both in Natchez and New Orleans, he experienced the kindest attentions, and found that many of their wealthy citizens were the friends and benefactors of the Society.

Among the unsold portions of the estate bequeathed by the late Mr. Ireland of New Orleans, to this Society, in joint connexion with the two Asylums for Orphan Children in that city, was a valuable square of ground in Faubourg Lafayette, which, with the consent of the representatives of these asylums, was sold at public auction for \$18,500. Though the managers regard this sale as entirely fair and unexceptionable, yet, through some misunderstanding it is to be presumed, an objection has been urged against it by the gentlemen intrusted with the interests of the Boys' Asylum, in courtesy to whom, and to prevent even a feeling of uncharitableness in the disposal of this property, devoted to charity, the board have consented that it should be resold. It is worthy of remark that, as this property is to be sold on a credit of one, two and three years, it was generously proposed by the gentleman acting in behalf of the asylums, that the amount which might become due the first year should be paid over to this Society.

It will be recollected that, by the will of Mr. Green, a number of his slaves were liberated, and a portion of his estate left in trust of Mr. Railey, Mrs. Railey, and Mrs. Wood, (the last two sisters of Mr. Green,) with requests, both verbal and written, that it should be applied (unless their judgment dictated otherwise) to the emancipation and colonization of slaves from Mississippi in Liberia. The slaves emancipated by Mr. Green have already been sent by his executors to the colony, at an expense, including the ample supplies furnished them of about \$7,000. The secretary was informed by Mr. Railey, that, although in the opinion of some, the executors would be clearly discharged from the trust reposed in them, by the further appropriation of \$20,000, in fulfilment of the benevolent designs of Mr. Green, they had resolved to make the amount \$25,000. It is expected that this sum will in the course of a few months be ready to be applied to the objects to which it is devoted. As the whole matter in regard to this legacy is left to the discretion of the executors, the cheerfulness and promptitude with which they have resolved to carry into full effect the charitable purposes of the testator cannot be too highly appreciated.

At Prospect Hill, nine miles from Port Gibson, Mississippi, the seat of the late Capt. Ross, the secretary had the pleasure of conferring with his very intelligent and high-minded daughter, Mrs. Reed, on the subject of the great and humane purposes contemplated in the testament of her venerated father. The provisions of the will of Capt. Ross are before the public. The will directs that, should his slaves choose to emigrate to Liberia, his entire estate, after deducting some small legacies, shall be sold, and the proceeds thereof applied to their benefit in Africa. But that, should they decline to go to Liberia, they, together with the estate, shall be disposed of, and the proceeds be a permanent fund intrusted to the Colonization Society, the interest of which shall be applied to establish and support a literary institution in the colony.



Every thing possible may be expected from the benevolent views of Mrs. Reed towards carrying into speedy effect this will, prepared as she is to make any sacrifice of her personal feelings to the cause of humanity and duty. It is believed that the relatives of the deceased, generally, concur in the sentiments of Mrs. Reed, and that the executors of the estate will discharge their high responsibilities with fidelity and success. This will involve great interests. Capt. Ross was a remarkable man, distinguished for energy, integrity, and benevolence. His slaves are mostly disconnected from those on other plantations, and therefore constitute one great family of about one hundred and seventy in number, who have enjoyed almost parental care and kindness. To render them happy appears to have been the great object of their master. For several years before his death, Capt. Ross, though a skilful manager of his estate, made no attempt to add to his capital, but developed and applied his resources to increase the comforts of his people. These people are moral, sober and industrious. The income of the estate is estimated at \$20,000 per annum.

Mr. Isaac Ross, (now deceased,) a worthy son of Capt. Isaac Ross, directed by his will that the slaves on one of his estates should be placed at the disposal of the Colonization Society, that they might be removed to Liberia; and a similar provision was made in regard to all his slaves of a suitable age by the late Drury W. Brazeale, of Claiborne county, Miss., who directed further that they should be supplied from his estate with the articles necessary for their comfortable settlement in Africa.

A large bequest (estimated at nearly thirty thousand dollars) has been left to the Society by the will of the late Hasten M. Childers, of Carroll county, Louisiana. It is said there is a legal defect in the execution of this will; yet the estimable and generous character of Mrs. Childers will, it is presumed, forbid, if possible, that a mere informality should defeat the ends of justice and humanity.

At Louisville, Frankfort, Lexington, Shelbyville, Harrodsburg, and Versailles, public meetings were held; gentlemen of talents and influence came forward to advocate colonization, and resolutions were passed, without a dissenting voice, declaring the plan of the Society worthy of state and national patronage, and that it was expedient for the friends of this plan in Kentucky to submit the question therein involved at an early day, by memorials to the Legislature of their states, and to the Congress of the United States. Societies, in several cases, were reorganized, men of all political and religious creeds, and of every class and profession, were united in the opinion that the scheme of African colonization merited support; that it was a scheme of such magnitude and utility, and practicableness, as to demand for its execution the combined means and powers of the state and federal governments. Such is the opinion in Kentucky of those who fill with honor her highest offices, legislative and judicial, in the state, and of those who represent her with such ability and eloquence in the national councils.

Though the season of the year was unfavorable to raising funds for any object of public charity, and though much time was occupied with other objects relating to the cause, yet the subscriptions obtained amount to \$10,015.23, of which \$7,963.23 has been paid. Of this amount \$3,711 was from Louisiana, \$2,930 from Mississippi, and \$2,685.23, including \$1,200 from the State Society at Frankfort, Kentucky; \$590 from Mobile, Alabama, and \$100 from New Albany, Indiana.

In his report to the board, already before the public, the secretary acknowledges, with gratitude to the great Author of benevolence, and of all success in benevolent enterprizes, that, during his extensive tour, and his intercourse with thousands of his countrymen in the vast and busy world of the west and southwest, he has experienced from all kindness and hospitality only; that in prosecution of endeavors to subserve the cause of African colonization, he

has, in nearly every instance, received cordial, in some powerful aid, and in no case encountered opposition; that he has found pervading, generally, the minds of virtuous and reflecting men in that portion of the union, a desire that this cause should be sustained, as of concern to patriotism no less than to humanity, by the state and federal governments, connected with a disposition (until it shall be so sustained) to give it their influence, their prayers, and their donations.

Whether we consider instances of the emancipation of slaves with a view to their colonization in Africa, the munificent bequests recently made to their Society, or the amount of money contributed by the auxiliary associations in Mississippi and Louisiana, we may conclude that, throughout the union, there is no field of better promise to the cause; none from which emigrants in larger numbers, or more suitable, can be expected; none which will yield ampler means for their prosperous settlement in Liberia.

#### RETURN OF THE LATE COLONIAL AGENT.

Dr. Ezekiel Skinner, who consented to accept, until some other well qualified person should be appointed, the office of Colonial Agent, and who has devoted himself with most untiring zeal, disinterestedness and activity to the welfare of the colonists, has been compelled, by ill health, to return to the United States. The managers would do injustice to their own sensibility, did they not express the esteem they cherish for that moral courage and enthusiasm which prompted this gentleman, after suffering bereavement in the loss of a son, who, with his wife and child, died in the missionary service to Africa, to leave his own family, that on a distant and heathen shore, amid toil and peril, he might alleviate human suffering, and assist to build up the homes of freedom and the churches of the living God.

#### APPOINTMENT OF GOVERNOR OF THE COLONY.

The managers are gratified to be able to state that Captain E. A. Hitchcock, a gentleman of commanding qualifications for the station, has received, by an unanimous vote, the appointment of Governor of Liberia, and strong hopes may be entertained that he will accept the appointment.

In conclusion the managers would present devout thanksgiving to the Almighty Father of mankind, by whose sustaining energies and providential care they have been permitted to continue their exertions during another year. Events since the last anniversary of this Society solemnly admonish its present members that they must soon resign their great trust to other hands, and from the scenes of eternity alone expect to view the consummation of their enterprise. But their work will survive them. The material they would renovate is human nature; the element they would move is the human soul, that glorious element of power, embodying all the essential hopes and interests and fortunes of man.

Let this Society feel the magnitude and importance of its work. Let them regard it as a work patriotic and benevolent in all its tendencies, the execution of which is demanded alike by the love of our country, our nature, and our God; and which, contributing to the honor and safety of one land, will shed over another—dark, savage, deep stained with *crime and blood*—the blessings of freedom and civilization, and the inextinguishable light of Christianity.













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